

Application No.: 10/657,563
Art Unit: 3712

Attorney Docket No. 23247.00
Confirmation No. 3306

REMARKS

By the present amendment, Applicant has amended Claims 1, 6, 7 (second occurrence), 8 and 9. It is noted that two different Claim 7s appear in the original application. Thus, Claims 7 (second occurrence), 8 and 9 have been renumbered as Claims ~~8~~, ~~9~~ and ~~10~~, respectively. Claims 1-10 remain active in this application. Claim 1 is an independent claim.

In the recent Office Action, the Examiner objected to Claim 1 because of informalities. Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner indicated that Claims 1-9 would be allowable over the prior art of record if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

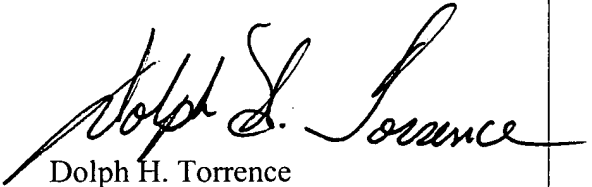
The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation. In this regard, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to remove minor grammatical errors and the alleged indefinite limitation to facilitate prosecution of the present application. Also, Claim 6 has been amended to delete the allegedly indefinite word "about." Applicant has amended renumbered Claim 10 to keep it dependent on renumbered Claim 9. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-10, as amended, meet the specific requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

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For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. If such is not the case, the Examiner is requested to kindly contact the undersigned in an effort to satisfactorily conclude the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dolph H. Torrence". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dolph" and last name "Torrence" clearly distinguishable.

Dolph H. Torrence
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DHT:gps